

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 389  
By Curtiss

A RESOLUTION to designate certain segments of State Route 111 in White County as the "Harold 'Mose' Sims Memorial Highway".

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly has seen fit to name certain highways to honor those exemplary public servants who, during their lifetimes, work assiduously to build a brighter future for their fellow citizens and their children; and

WHEREAS, the late Harold "Mose" Sims of Sparta was most assuredly one such peerless public servant, a voice of reason, integrity and compassion in his community; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding man and community leader, Harold "Mose" Sims attended White County schools and worked various jobs, laboring in a silk mill, rock quarry and lumber mill to further his education at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and the School of Foreign Service at George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims was appointed Vice Counsel in the diplomatic service of the State Department in 1933, thus beginning his illustrious and long career as a diplomat; he served in seven foreign countries on three continents as consul, advisor and United States Representative of Minister; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims served under several Presidents of these United States, working for and under their command on various important assignments and receiving many awards for excellence in job performance; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims retired voluntarily from foreign service in May, 1962, returning to his hometown of Sparta, Tennessee, to be named "Man of the Year" by the Civitan Club in 1963. He was also appointed special advisor for international relations of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio, in that year, an important position which he filled with acumen and industry; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims was a consummate businessman with a pleasant personality; he brought to his dealings humor, seriousness and dedication, and he made a positive impression upon everyone with whom he came into contact; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims worked in many capacities for White County, the City of Sparta and the State of Tennessee as a man of many hats and talents. He served meritoriously as industrial recruiter under two governors, Ellington and Clement, and he was responsible for bringing many new industries to Tennessee and White County; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims was elected mayor of Sparta in 1965 and served for two illustrious terms; he also served proficiently as Chairman of the Board of Education for the City of Sparta and Vice-Chairman of the joint School Board of White County and as a consultant to the White County Chamber of Commerce in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims was instrumental in making State Highway 111 a reality with his foresight, wisdom and his desire to see this area of Tennessee grow, endure and prosper for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Harold "Mose" Sims was a dedicated family man and was devoted to his wife, his children and his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in the passing of Harold "Mose" Sims, his family, the county of White, the city of Sparta, the state of Tennessee, our nation and the Bridgestone Firestone Tire and Rubber Company have lost a true public servant, and a distinguished and esteemed friend and associate; and

WHEREAS, the White County commission has expressed a desire to name two segments of State Route 111 in Mr. Sims' honor as a commemoration of his exemplary public service and stellar citizenship; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with the White County Commission's proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the following segments of State Route 111 in White County are hereby designated as the "Harold 'Mose' Sims Memorial Highway" as a memorial to this extraordinary man's life of purpose and commitment to the public good;

(1) that segment from the northern corporate limits of the city of Sparta to the White County-Putnam County boundary; and

(2) that segment from the southern corporate limits of the city of Sparta to its intersection with the Caney Fork River, which serves as the White County-Van Buren County boundary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such segments of State Route 111 as the "Harold 'Mose' Sims Memorial Highway".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.